

TOP SECRET

IDEA-0073

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28 November 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Chief, Development Projects Division

SUBJECT : Modification of U-2 for ELINT Collection

REFERENCES : A. Memorandum for DD/P, dated 22 November 1960, from AC/DPD, subject: "Use of

25X1D

[REDACTED]
(IDEA-0054)

B. Memorandum for DD/P, dated 25 November 1960, from Chairman, CCPC Task Force, Subject: "Requirement for Modified U-2 ELINT Configuration". [REDACTED]

C. Memorandum for the Record, dated 22 November 1960, from Asst. Cf, DPD, subject: "Conversation with Ambassador Hugh Cumming, Director of Intelligence & Research, Department of State, 22 November" (IDEA-0063)

25X1

25X1

[REDACTED] I note from Reference A that you have already made a decision in favor of an HRB Company proposal to develop the modified Elint system. I presume, since this decision was made in consultation with OSI that the HRB system meets the requirement in Reference C (or does so as fully as is believed feasible at this time).

2. As to the status of this matter, I wish to reiterate my instruction that no contract should be let and no funds obligated for the development of an Elint system until we have good reason to believe that the operation of U-2 aircraft from an acceptably located base for a substantial period of time will be politically feasible. I believe we are agreed that the operation would be technically infeasible from Adana and [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] We are currently making efforts to determine whether an operation from there would be possible using [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] If our efforts are successful, I would propose to [REDACTED]

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make every effort to secure funding for the modified Elint system and to proceed immediately with its development.

3. I note from Reference C, the reluctance of the Near Eastern Bureau of the State Department to approach the [redacted] the above matter at this time. I share the view [redacted] at least in part. A cable has already gone out requesting permission for [redacted] and we should surely await the reply on this matter before raising the question of a U-2 detachment. If the [redacted] is in bad shape (and I assume that the DOD is being either obstructive or inefficient, or both on this matter) it would probably be better to raise the U-2 issue only when this program is in slightly better shape unless the U-2 proposal could be made to appear [redacted] The former of these matters will be out of the way (for better or for worse) within a few days by which time we may be able to devise an effective strategy on the latter. I would hope, then, that this question could be raised [redacted] in about two weeks time or, pessimistically, perhaps within two months. When their answer is in, our course of action on Reference B will be clear.

Attachment:
Reference B #/

RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.
Deputy Director
(Plans)

- #1-Addressee
- #2-Chairman, CCPC Task Force
- #3-CI/TAS/DPD - 4/7 2 ut.
- #4-DDP

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CURRENT AND PROPOSED OPERATIONS

OPERATION		AREA	DATE	APPROVAL STATUS USAF - AGENCY/STATE	
1. IDEALIST					
25X1	a. Detachment B returning to ZI ([] holding unit remaining in place).				
	b. GREEN EYES	Cuba	26 November - 2 December	Approved	Approved
2. CORONA					
	a. 9013		6 December	N/R	Approved
25X1A	3. AIR SUPPORT				
25X1A	a. [] - contingency plan	[]	Continuing basis	Not presented	Approved-Agency
25X1	b. [] - contingency plan	[]	Continuing basis	Not presented	Approved-Agency
	c. JMAR C - contingency plan	Cuba	Continuing basis	N/R	Approved
25X1	d. []	[]	December 1960	N/R	Pending
25X1	e. []	[]	Continuing basis	N/R	Approved
	f. []	[]	December 1960	N/R	Approved
25X1A	4. []	[]	January 1961	Approved	Approved

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OPERATIONS BRANCH

COMPLETED OPERATIONS FOR PERIOD 20-26 NOVEMBER

JMARC

25X1

[Redacted]

IDEALIST

25X1A

1. [Redacted] completed 25 November.
2. Aircraft return to Edwards - 26 November.

PROPOSED OPERATIONS 27 NOVEMBER - 3 DECEMBER

JMARC

25X1

[Redacted]